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ONE MARYLAND

Celebrating Women's History Month in the State of Maryland

March 2014



Governor O'Malley swears in eight-year old Genea Davis, of Prince George's County, as "Governor for the Day" after Davis won a state essay contest in honor of International Women's Day. July 2, 2013.

A Message from the Governor

March is Women's History Month, a time to celebrate the heritage, impact and influence of women all across the Nation.

The history of Maryland is filled with stories of strong and courageous female leaders, from Harriet Tubman to Clara Barton. But women are also making history here today, women like Senator Barbara Mikulski, the longest-serving woman in the history of the U.S. Congress, who also co-sponsored the first Joint Congressional Resolution proclaiming a Women's History Week in 1981.

What's more, this past September, Maryland was named "The Best State for Women" by the [Center for American Progress](#), which looked at economics, leadership, and health in all 50 states. We ranked first in both economics and leadership, boasting the country's highest percentage of women-owned businesses, the lowest wage gap for women of any state in the nation, and the fourth-highest percentage of female elected officials in both the U.S. Congress and the state legislature.

But we all know there is more work to be done. 11% of the women in Maryland live in poverty. And of our citizens earning just the minimum wage, more than half are women. Yet, in 15% of our households, women are the sole or primary earners. And while we do better than most other states in giving families access to Pre-K with 34.9% of four and five-year-olds enrolled in public Pre-K, our work will not be finished until access is universal.

We can do better. We must do better.

This is why my two biggest priorities of the year are raising Maryland's minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour and continuing to expand Pre-K.

Join me in the fight for more equality and a stronger Maryland. Together we can ensure that Maryland remains "The Best State for Women" for generations to come.



AROUND MARYLAND

[St. Patrick's Day Parades](#)

March 16 in Baltimore, March 15 in Gaithersburg & Chesapeake City

For more than 50 years, revelers have gathered at the Inner Harbor to participate in the Baltimore St. Patrick's Day Parade & Shamrock 5K.

[Maryland Day Celebrations](#)

March 21-23 in Anne Arundel County, March 22 & 25 in St. Mary's County

In March 1634, two English ships -- the Ark and the Dove -- sailed up the Chesapeake Bay, and landed at St. Clement's Island. The adventurers aboard established the colony of Maryland. Come celebrate the arrival of the first colonist to America and the founding of Maryland at events throughout the State!

[The Bethesda & Annapolis Film Festivals](#)

March 21-22 in Bethesda, March 27-30 in Annapolis

Just because the Oscars are over, doesn't mean you should stop going to the movies! In fact, there are two major film festivals taking place in Maryland this month. The Bethesda Film Festival will feature the work of local documentary filmmakers, while the Annapolis Film Festival will feature parties, panels, and a plethora short and feature length films from all over the country and the world.

[Orioles Opening Day against the Red Sox](#)

March 31, Camden Yards, Baltimore Celebrate the beginning of yet another baseball season at Camden Yards. Cheer on the O's as they take on one of the biggest teams in baseball, the Boston Red Sox, on Opening Day. There's a reason they call it

Thank you,
Governor O'Malley

What's happening?



Discussing Minimum Wage the at the White House

Governor O'Malley recently highlighted Maryland's efforts to raise the minimum wage, expand economic opportunity, and strengthen the middle class in a White House meeting with Vice President Joe Biden, U.S. Secretary of Labor Tom Perez, Director of the National Economic Council Gene Sperling, and Senior Adviser Valerie Jarrett. Governor O'Malley was joined by Governors Inslee (Wash.), Malloy (Conn.), and Quinn (Ill.).



On March 7, the Maryland House of Delegates voted 89-46 to increase the State's minimum wage from \$7.25/hr to \$10.10/hr, a shift that will be implemented over three years. The Economic Policy Institute estimates that such an increase would benefit more than 455,000 workers, create 1,600 new jobs throughout the state, and generate \$456 million in new economic activity over the course of the phase-in period.



Protecting our Citizens

In an effort to protect Maryland's citizens, Governor O'Malley recently unveiled the new [Managed Access cell phone system](#) in the Baltimore City Detention Center (BCDC). The system blocks all illegal and unauthorized calls within the correctional facility's walls and is seen as a critical tool that will reduce illegal activity behind bars. Under Governor O'Malley's leadership, the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) has implemented several innovative approaches to increasing cell phone interdiction; including investing \$1.1 million in facility entrance technology and using cell phone sniffing dogs trained by its own K9 unit.



Governor O'Malley is committed to expanding [Maryland's internationally recognized K9 Unit](#). Last month the Unit graduated seven K9 teams plus a handler and dog trained for the Delaware Department of Corrections. The 49 dogs are trained to detect cell phones, drugs, tobacco, and other contraband. The Unit has averaged nearly 93,000 searches per year for the last six years. In the last two fiscal years, the K9 Unit has found almost 1,300 pieces of contraband, including 254 cell phones.



Marylander on the Move: Mayor "Gee" Williams III

Berlin Mayor "Gee" Williams III is leading [America's Coolest Small Town](#), as voted by thousands of Budget Travel readers.

Mayor Williams and the town's 4,563 residents hope the town's new title will encourage visitors to visit Worcester County and the Eastern Shore and boost their local economy.

Berlin managed to earn a hefty 28% of the vote, besting second place Casanova, NY, whose mayor wagered Williams a growler of his city's local brew over the outcome of the competition.

America's favorite pastime; you won't want to miss out!

Antipasto Amore: Wine & Food Pairing

Mar 1-31 in Mount Airy
For the whole month of March, Linganore Wines is hosting a special for \$10 per person to indulge on Italian meats, cheeses and vegetables paired with Linganore wine!

For more events around Maryland, visit the [Maryland Tourism Office](#) and follow [@TravelMD](#) on Twitter.



What social media network do you prefer?



MARYLAND TWEETS

Follow us on Twitter!

[@MdAgDept](#): Maryland Exceeds All Bay Nutrient & Sediment Load Goals in 2013. [@StateStat](http://ow.ly/ugyb)

[@MDBiz](#): When ranking over 100 U.S. cities for "brainpower," Baltimore is listed in the top 20 - <http://ow.ly/u4fJ>.

[@MDPublicSafety](#): DPSCS Inmates tend retired thoroughbred horses thanks to program <http://buff.ly/OJwDBc> [#Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation](#)

[@Itgovbrown](#): Since 2007, we've done more than any other state to hold down the rising cost of college tuition. [#investUSM](#)

[@MDGrantsOffice](#): CONGRATS to the best government web team in the nation, <http://maryland.gov>, with 8 impressive top awards! <http://maryland.gov/awards...>

[@baytrust](#): New Public Drop-off

The city plans to celebrate by throwing "America's Coolest Party," on March 29 from 1-6 p.m., featuring live music, food, and drinks.

Innovation Maryland: MD Dept. of Disabilities Technology Assistance Program

The Maryland Department of Disabilities recently released its [Annual Report](#) detailing the various triumphs of



its Technology Assistance Program ([MDTAP](#)) over the past year. Established in 1992, the mission of the MDTAP is "to enhance the lives of all Marylanders with disabilities, older Marylanders, and their families by helping support access to assistive technology (AT) devices and services." The Department has vigorously pursued this mission over the course of the last 12 months, holding equipment demonstrations, facilitating short-term equipment loans, organizing equipment reuse & recycling programs, and granting low-interest financial loans to help disabled residents finance equipment of their own.

The Annual Report notes that nearly 1,300 individuals contacted MDTAP in 2013, with the department handling each request individually. In conjunction with its partners, the MDTAP managed to train more than 1,200 Marylanders over the course of the year and extend public awareness by sending information to more than 800,000 residents throughout the state of Maryland.

What's more, MDTAP expanded its social media outreach by launching its own [YouTube channel](#) to share introductory AT videos. The Program also established a public, searchable database of all its equipment in the [AT Library](#) and, "[Where It's AT](#)," the MDTAP's AT Blog, was voted second best Technology and Science Blog of 2013 by the Baltimore Sun.



Locations to Recycle Used Oyster Shells <http://ow.ly/u1b91> ...[#MD](#) [@CharlesCoMD](#).

Hashtag of the Month: This month, use [#RaisetheWage](#) to help all Marylanders thrive.

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